

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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Contact: Lauren Carrier
Phone: 919/ 733-5612

**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 320 JOBS AND \$2.55 MILLION INVESTMENT FOR
MECKLENBURG COUNTY**

JDIG Helps Bring Newell Rubbermaid Expansion to Huntersville

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that Newell Rubbermaid, a leading manufacturer and marketer of household products, will expand its Huntersville campus, investing \$2.55 million and creating 320 new jobs over the next five years. The expansion is made possible in part by a Job Development Investment Grant.

“Today’s announcement shows that North Carolina has the skilled workforce and No. 1 business climate to attract globally-recognized companies such as Newell Rubbermaid,” said Easley. “We will continue to make the necessary investments in workforce development, education and infrastructure, so that we remain a top choice for companies looking to relocate and expand.”

Newell Rubbermaid is headquartered in Atlanta and employs approximately 26,500 people in the U.S. and Europe. With 2005 net sales exceeding \$6.3 billion, Newell Rubbermaid earned a spot on the 2006 Fortune 500 list of America’s largest corporations.

The company will build a \$5 million, 50,000 square foot facility on the Huntersville campus at the NorthPointe Executive Park. Newell Rubbermaid currently has three company business units; IRWIN Power Tool Accessories, Hand Tools, and Rubbermaid Foodservice Products, with approximately 378 employees at the campus. The additional 320 jobs will be professional and management positions that will pay an average annual salary of \$88,700, not including benefits, which is almost double the Mecklenburg County average annual salary of \$47,900, not including benefits.

“This is an exciting announcement for Newell Rubbermaid,” said Jim Roberts, group president/chief operating officer, IRWIN/Rubbermaid Group. “Expanding our operations in Huntersville will increase collaboration among our teams, help us streamline general and administrative costs, and improve our ability to attract and retain top-tier talent. I feel certain that our employees will enjoy the great communities and recreational opportunities that so many North Carolinians treasure.”

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